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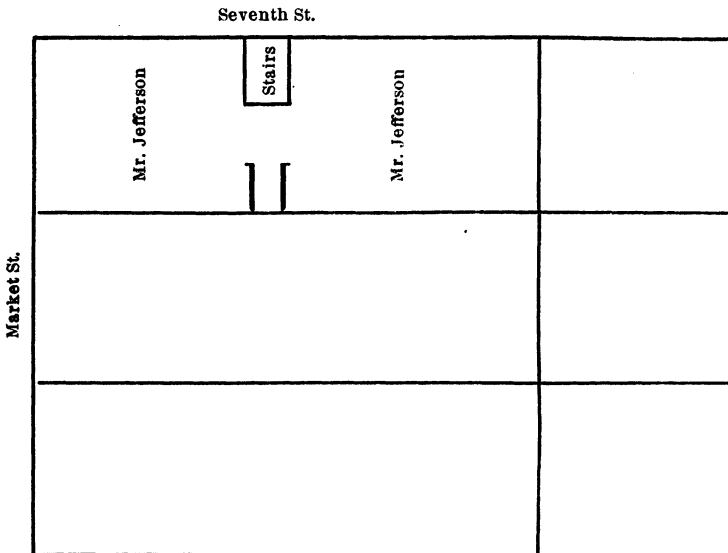
NOTES AND QUERIES.

Notes.

THE CHARLES MORTON SMITH FUND.—Mr. Charles Morton Smith, a Councillor of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, desired his wife, Mrs. Anna Ingersoll Smith, to bequeath to it the sum of \$20,000, the income to be used for the purchase of books. At a meeting of the Council, held January 22, 1917, his widow, anticipating the fulfillment of the wish of her husband, presented the Society with her check for this amount.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE HOUSE IN WHICH JEFFERSON DREW UP THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Among the numerous pamphlets of the well-known local antiquarian, John McAllister, Jr., in the library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is a copy of the "Eulogium on Thomas Jefferson," delivered before the American Philosophical Society, April 11, 1827, by Nicholas Biddle, in the appendix to which are two letters of Mr. Jefferson to Dr. James Mease, giving his recollections of the house in which he lodged when he drew up the Declaration of Independence. Mr. McAllister has inserted a plan of this house with comments.



"The above shows the original plan of the house at the south-west corner of Market and Seventh streets. The two rooms on the second story, having the stairway between them, were occupied by Mr. Jefferson in 1776. In one of those rooms he wrote the Declaration of Independence.

"The corner house and the two adjoining houses on Market street became the property of Messrs. Simon and Hyman Gratz, about 1798, and

were for many years occupied by them as their place of business. They added a fourth story to the height; they also closed up the door on Seventh street and removed the stairs. The whole of the second floor of the corner house is one room, but the place where the old stairway came up can be seen by the alteration in the boards of the floor. The corner house was occupied in 1776 by the father of the late Mr. Frederick Graff, who was then an infant. He told me that he could remember hearing his parents say that he had often sat on Mr. Jefferson's knee.

"The sketch of the original plan of the house, from which this copy was made, was drawn for me today by Mr. Hyman Gratz.

"July 6, 1855,

"John McAllister, Jr."

In the late Summer of 1825 Dr. James Mease, of this city, wrote to Mr. Jefferson asking for his recollections of the house in which he had drawn up the Declaration of Independence, who responded in the following letters:

"Monticello, Sep. 16, 1825.

"Dear Sir,

"It is not for me to estimate the importance of the circumstances concerning which your letter of the 8th makes inquiry. They prove, even in their minuteness, the sacred attachments of our fellow citizens to the event of which the paper of July 4, 1776, was but the declaration, the genuine effusion of the soul of our country at that time. Small things may perhaps, like the relics of saints, help to nourish our devotion of the holy bond of our union, and keep it longer alive and warm in our affections. This effect may give importance to circumstances however small.

"At the time of writing that instrument I lodged in the house of a Mr. Graaf, a new brick house three stories high, of which I rented the second floor, consisting of a parlour and bedroom ready furnished. In that parlour I wrote habitually, and in it wrote this paper particularly. So far I state from written proofs in my possession. The proprietor Graaf was a young man, son of a German, and then newly married. I think he was a bricklayer, and that his house was on the south side of Market street, probably between 7th and 8th streets, and if not the only house on that part of the street, I am sure there were few others near it. I have some idea that it was a corner house, but no other recollections throwing any light on the question are worth communication. I will therefore only add assurance of my great respect and esteem.

"Th. Jefferson.

"Dr. James Mease,
"Philadelphia."

"Monticello, Oct. 30, 1825.

"Dear Sir,

"Your letter of Sept. 8, inquiring after the house in which the declaration of independence was written, has excited my curiosity to know whether my recollections were such as to enable you to find out the house. A line on the subject would oblige,

"Dear Sir, Yours.

"Th. Jefferson."

That Mr. Jefferson was correct in his recollections is confirmed by Jacob Hiltzheimer, who resided on the east side of Seventh street opposite the Graaf house, who makes the following entry in his diary under date of July 28, 1777:

"This afternoon paid Jacob Graff, Jr., for the house and lot at the corner of Seventh and High streets, and received the deed for the same."

The sum paid was £1775. On the site of this house now stands a part of the Penn National Bank.

PAY ROLL OF KENT COUNTY (DELAWARE) REPRESENTATIVES, 1759.

The Governm^t of the Lower Counties, to the Representatives of Kent County D^r

1759

May y ^e	To John Brinckle Esq ^r 8 days attend ^e 48/	£	4	0	6
7	To 65 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 32/6				
	John Barns to 8 days attend ^e 48/		3	8	0
	To 40 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 20				
	John Vining Esq ^r to 8 days attend ^e 48/		3	11	0
	To 46 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 23/				
	Vincent Loockerman to attend ^e 48/		3	11	0
	To 46 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 23/				
	Joseph Caldwell to attend ^e 48/		3	13	6
	To 51 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 25/6				
	Cæsar Rodney to attend ^e 48/		3	14	6
	To 53 Miles at 6 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$ Mile 26/6				
			£	21	18 6

Gentlemen

Pay unto the Representatives of Kent County the several Sums above mentioned annexed to their Names and the same will be allowed you on Settlement with the Committee in their acco^t of Interest money

Jacob Kollock Speaker

To the Trustees of the Loan Office
of Kent.

"FORT RITTENHOUSE."—The antiquarian, John McAllister, Jr., has left the following notes in relation to "Fort Rittenhouse": "The residence of David Rittenhouse was at the northwest corner of Arch and Seventh streets. After his decease his daughter, Mrs. Sergeant, occupied it, his other daughter, Mrs. Waters, occupying the adjoining house on Seventh street. Gen. Bright rented a house on Seventh street a few doors above Mrs. Waters for his quarters. His soldiers, who were members of a volunteer company, were sentinels by turns. I went up to the premises several times to see the proceedings. Sentinels with muskets were posted at the front door on Arch street, at the alley gate on Seventh street, and at the door of Mrs. Waters' house; others were pacing up and down the pavement and some were in the garden on the west side of the house, in which stood the observatory. The soldiers who were tried before the United States court were those who were actually doing duty as guards at the time the Marshal, John Smith, made the arrests, March 25, 1809. After being sentenced they were confined in the Debtors' apartment in Prune street. President Madison pardoned them May 6, 1809."

LETTER OF WILLIAM BALL TO WILLIAM FAIRFAX, OF KING GEORGE, VA.
[Ms. Divis. Hist. Soc. Penna. Dreer Coll.]

S^r

I rece^d yours dated the 17th of May: am Sorry I could not get the plott ready Sooner (then am like to doe): I have bin verry much Indisposed, with ffevers, tooth Ach, and pain in my head; that have not bin Able to Set to plot, am afraid Shall not have them ready before the Latter End of Next week: Shall Send them as Soon as they are Completed.

I am

Y^r Verry Hum^ble Serv^{tt}

William Ball

June 4th 1737:

VALLEY FORGE.—“Thomas Bradford is appointed Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners. His quarters are at Mr. David Harvard, the next house to the Marquis Lafayette.”—*Gen. Hand's Orderly Book*.

TURNPIKES.—The example in this Province was set by the Directors of the Fire Insurance office of this City, who generously paid for and affixed 29 stones on the York Road from Philadelphia to Trenton Ferry, and 20 stones on the road leading from this City to Maryland and Virginia, which sufficiently informs the Traveller of the several distances within this Province, on those sides of it.—*Pennsylvania Chronicle*, March, 1767.

LETTER OF JOHN JAMES AUDUBON TO THOMAS SULLY. [*Ms. Divis. Hist. Soc. of Penna. Dreer Coll.*]

Thomas Sully Esq^r
Philadelphia—

What answer shall I write My Dear Friend that can prove to you the Glow I felt through my whole frame when I read your last note to me. The sensation resembled the reality of my Possessing The Esteem of Thomas Sully—I kissed it, thanked you, as I was accustomed to do when my Father used to speak to me of Best advises, and never will I forget either of you.

My reception in New York has surpassed my Hopes, I have been met most kindly and had I seen Co^l Trumbull I would have found him the Gentleman you represented, but his absence to Saratoga Springs has deprived me of that pleasure.

New York is now an immense City. Strangers are received here with Less reserve generally than at Phil^a. I found the Acedemy well supplied with Paintings & Sculptures of the Great Masters—The Steam Boats of the Sweet Ohio with all their Swiftness of Motions & beautiful form, do not interest the Eye Like those that are here Tossing over the foaming Billows with the Grace of the Wild Swan. Was I a Painter, Ah could I like Vernet carry in my Minds eye all my mind feels when looking from the Battery at the Moon's tender reflexions on the furthest Sails forcing the Vessel they move into the very winds heart—Express as he does the quick moving Tar hauling in a reef at the yard's end; and make on the Canvas *A Noble Commander Speak as You have done*.—Then my Dear Friend I could Show you New York's harbour and all its Beauties.

how often I have seen in thought Your Lady and all your Sweet Children. is my Little friend Diggory perfectly Well again? does not your Youngest Darling keep improving? and do not Your Ladies musical powers continue to force each Passenger to stop & Lissen at Your Windows? I think I have just met The Little Sisters on their way to School passing the foot Steps that lead to our Friend Vaughn and Whilst my Heart enclines Westwardly again to my own Beloved Home, I mark Thomas Sully the Younger Crossing The Schuillkill with open countenance and a free Step Stearing towards Knowledge, I Sigh and regret Philadelphia—Yet I cannot part with that Fair City this Soon; I cannot help Thanking Fairman, Peale, Neagle, Lesueur and many others besides McMurtry for their attentions to me—Should you See Honest quaker Haines beg of him to believe me his Friend—Should you See M^r Ord tell him I never was his enemy—Think of me some time and accept The Truest Best Wishes of

John J. Audubon

New York August 14th 1824.

I leave for Boston Tomorrow—Should you please to Write to Me Direct. to Care of Mess^{rs} Anshutz & Co Pittsburgh—where I shall be in about 40 days.

LETTER OF AARON BURR TO JOHN NICHOLSON. [*Ms. Divis. Hist. Soc. of Penna. Dreer Coll.*]

N. York 16 July 1793

Dear sir

Your order for the Balance due on my Shares in the population Company was presented & paid some weeks ago, but your letter of the 29th June was not received 'till the 10 Inst:

I am very much of your Opinion with regard to the benefits to arise from the Indian Treaty—after Three or four Millions spent in War & probably another Million in Negotiation, we may think ourselves fortunate if we find Matters no worse than at the Commencement of hostilities.

We have a rumor here, (very grateful to our Tories,) that Genet has come to an open Rupture with the President—That he has publickly threatned to appeal to the people, that as preparatory to this Step he goes about Visiting the Mechanics and the lower orders of people, leaving Cards at their houses when they are not at home! &c. &c. And the Rumors add that it is in Contemplation of the President and his Ministers to dismiss the french Plenipo. Will you have the goodness, if sufficiently at leisure, to let me know how far these Reports have any foundation in fact.

I am Dear sir with great
Respect & Attachment
Y^r ob^t S^t

John Nicholson Esq.

Aaron Burr

FIRE INSURANCE.—The Hand-in-Hand Fire office was instituted in 1696 at the Rainbow Tavern, Fleet street, London, Nicholas Barbone, M.D. (a son of the famous Praise God Barbone), leading in the movement.

The Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire (the Hand-in-Hand) was established in April, 1752, Benjamin Franklin being one of the directors.

QUAKER GIRLS.—From a letter written by Gen. Greene to his wife, dated at Camp Sandy Run, November 2, 1777, the following is copied:

"Our Head Quarters are at one Mr. Emlens, close in the neighborhood of my quarters—there are several sweet pretty Quaker girls. If the spirit should move and love invite who can be answerable for the consequences? I know this won't alarm you because you have such an high opinion of my virtue. It is very well you have. You remember the prayer of the Saint—tempt me not above what I am able to bear."

LETTER OF MAJ. GEN'L ROBERT ANDERSON (OF FORT SUMTER FAME) TO BENJAMIN DRAKE. [*Ms. Divis. Hist. Soc. of Penna. Dreer Coll.*]

Elizabethtown N. J. Nov. 8. 1839.

My dear Sir.

I regret that the loss of my notes, of the Black Hawk Campaign, prevents my complying with your request to be furnished with the statements made to me, by an Indian respecting the death of Tecumseh. I will, however, give you my impressions as to the purport of his statement. You may have other statements which will confirm, or impeach the credibility of my recollection of what I was told.

My informant was named Chamblee who was in 1832 a Chief of the Pottawatamie Indians. He stated that he was very young, and was at the battle of Thames, and near Tecumseh, when he was killed. He represented Tecumseh as engaged in a personal rencounter with a soldier armed with a musket, that the latter had made a thrust at the Chief, who caught the bayonet under his left arm, where he held it, and was

in the act of striking his opponent with his tomahawk, when a horseman rode up and shot Tecumseh dead with a pistol. The horseman, he stated, had a white and red feather (plume) in his hat, and that he was mounted on a spotted horse—the colour as described by my interpreter, from the Indian language, was perhaps what is called a red roan—Chamblee (or as called by some Chabonnie) said that he saw Tecumseh's body a day or two after the battle and that it was not mutilated.

The above is as near as I can remember the substance of what was narrated. I regret that I can not give you the statement, as taken down by me, but, although a little uncertain about my informant's name, I am confident as to the correctness of my recollection as to the manner of Tecumseh's death. The Soldier, must have been one of the regulars, from his musket & bayonet. The horseman was perhaps one of the Ky. light horse, or their gallant chief himself.

Tecumseh was plainly dressed, he wore a leather hunting shirt.

I can not, my dear Sir, close this hurried letter without stating, that all the romantic interest, with which my boyish imagination had invested the character of the lords of the forest, has been gradually changed by my intercourse with them. Instead of that noble, high minded, brave, independent race, I had dreamed of, I have found them treacherous, ungrateful, and not boldly brave. A thousand favors bestowed are too often forgotten at the first neglect to give what has been demanded. Implacable hostility to the whites, is the only feeling, in which, from my little intercourse with them, I have found them consistent. It may be said that their indiscriminate murder of women and children is justified by custom. So it may when they are judged by their own laws, but civilized nations must ever regard the chiefs who authorize or commit such acts as monsters. We have unfortunately given the Indians too much cause to make them regard us as their natural enemies. I hope that henceforth the even scales of justice will regulate our intercourse with them.

If their Indian agent Forsythe is still living (he resided near St. Louis) he can give you much information on the interesting Subject you have undertaken. From Gen^l C. Gratiot St. Louis and Col. John O'Fallon, you could perhaps obtain some authentic information, or, at all events, receive such references as would aid you much.

I hope you will meet with such success as will enable you to give us an interesting work. Tecumseh's life and deeds are intimately connected with the struggles and difficulties of our Ancestors in forming their homes in the West, and are therefore deeply interesting to their descendants.

I am very respectfully

Your ob serv^t

Robert Anderson

PERSONAL NOTE FROM A CELEBRATED NOVELIST AND DRAMATIST TO A DISTINGUISHED POLITICAL ECONOMIST, both of Philadelphia, written about seventy years ago, recently presented to the Society.

My Dear Sir,

I have managed to pick up, without having taken any extraordinary pains to find it, a kind of cold which has something of a Bronchitic look about it,—so much so, that I am on my way to a Doctor's to have the mystery inquired into. If he is barbarous, he will send me home to a supper of salts and caustic, instead of oysters and terrapins; in which case I must beg you to excuse and commiserate me. If he thinks the case a small one, the oysters and terrapins forever!

Yours, with a cold,

Robt. M. Bird

H. C. Carey, Esq.

LETTER OF REYNOLD KEEN TO ENSIGN ISAAC AUSTIN.—The following letter (the original of which is in the possession of Simon Gratz, Esq.) is of special interest as testifying to the patriotism of Reynold Keen, who two years afterward was accused of treason to his country, of which charge he was finally acquitted. Isaac Austin was the son of Sarah Keen [cousin of Reynold Keen] by her second husband Samuel Austin, and brother of Sarah Austin, wife of Commodore John Barry. His mother's first husband was John Stillé, whose daughter Christiana Stillé became the first wife of Reynold Keen. When Reynold Keen subscribes himself as "brother," of course it is in the sense of brother-in-law.

Reading, Aug^t 5th, 1776.

Dr. Isaac

I am favoured with an Oppty of writing to you by Mr. Dundas who goes as a Volunteer from this town to the American Camp in Jersey, and I shall be very happy in hearing that you enjoy perfect health under the fatigues of a Campaign, which to you must be a severe tryal from the tender Manner of life you have experienced from your Cradle; but if I am not mistaken, your Zeal in the cause you have embarked in will lighten every burden you now undergo, and of course make a Campaign a life of pleasure rather than a life of hardships. Four Companys raised for the flying Camp have marched to join you, and the Militia I understand are preparing to March with all expedition. Indeed Isaac we cannot help lamenting the Gloomy prospect of the times w^{ch} Mrs. Keen have partook of most sincerely in conjunction with me, and is much distressed upon Billy's & your acco^{ts}. Our prayers are not wanting for the safe return of both of you to your Dear Mother who I am informed is so burthened with the business of a ferry that its almost more than she can bear. I am told your brother has sprained his ancle. If so, and he can leave his post with honour, I think he'll be better off to be at home with Mother, where he may be of some service. Your Sister joins me together with the children in love and best wishes for your welfare, and believe me to be D^r Isaac

Your Sincere friend & Bro^r

R. Keen

P.S. The Gentleman by whom this was to have been handed to you being disappointed in setting off, this will be forwarded by your Sister Sally.

LETTER OF ÆANUS BURKE TO GENERAL LACHLAN MCINTOSH. [*Ms. Divis. Hist. Soc. of Penna. Dreer Coll.*]

Camp before York. October 28th 1781

Dear General

From Philadelphia I arrived in eleven days at York, and enjoyed the gratification of seeing the British Army march out Prisoners of War and lay down their Arms. I have not as yet been able to proceed from hence on my journey, my horse having been crippled by a blow w^{ch} he received on the Shoulder, and roweled by a farrier. This has detained me and caused some care, but shall go forward in a few days.

I have the pleasure of congratulating you on this great event of reducing the power & strength of our Enemies in the Southern parts of America: it will be the means I hope, of putting an end to the War, and of restoring you to your Country and to tranquility for the future part of your Life. Your Exchange will no doubt take place shortly, and terminate your captivity w^{ch} has occasioned so many difficulties to you. I often think of you I can assure you Sir; and altho' I have a warm friendship & esteem for you, yet I cannot feel these sentiments to you

without some mixture of Envy. There is not a man living Whom I envy for his wealth, his reputation or abilities: But when I see a man surrounded with what the world calls More than difficulties: Exile from Country, splendid fortune, from family, with wants of almost every kind into the bargain, when such a man bears all this not only with constancy, but laughs at it with gait, you must not blame me if I envy him, when I feel myself & see most of the World besides me incapable of it.

In Camp I have lived in the family of General St. Claire, who is a most agreeable, genteel, good man, & has treated me wth great politeness. And as he requested me to march wth the Army, should do it, but they will march slow. otherwise it would suit me very well, for you must know that travelling is enormously dear on the lower road. Often they made me pay a guinea a day. St. Claire & myself traveled from Baltimore together. We supped on bread & milk at night at New Kent Court house, Virginia paid our reckoning before breakfast as usual, it cost him a guinea for himself, Aid & horses & two servants & me very little less. Tell your friends to go Southerly by the upper road, & not to travel in large parties, w^{ch} gives trouble at Inns & make high bills.

Be so good Sir as to remember my best respects to M^r Wereat, to M^r Tarfair & to the Gentlemen of your family.

I remain Sir with sincere respect & esteem

Your most obedient & most hum^o serv^t

Ædanus Burke.

LETTER OF CÆSAR RODNEY TO BENJAMIN CHEW.

Sir.

I have Recd: One hundred pounds of Lynford Lardner's money from William Manlove and Expect to get the Rest in a Short time Since I Recd: it, I wrote to you Concerning it, but had no answer Therefore Concluded you had not got my letter, Please to let me know Whether I shall Send it you by one of the Shalop men, and Which I have levy^d your Execution on one hundred acres of land or thereabouts, said by many to be Peter Growell's property, he has now a tenant on the Land, I intend to make my Return, then take out a Vendit to Sell it If you have any perticular Instructions to give me Concerning it Please to let me know them.

Sir, I beg you'd not forget that affair of Daniel Needham, I don't think he will Stay With us longer Than this Winter if so long, if so the Cost will fall heavy on me, John Rodney Inform'd me at our Court, that he Intended to Eject for the Same land before Next Court. I suppose it is by M^r Goldsborough's advice, Please to Write me by Louk.

I am Y^{rs} &c

Augst y^e 20th 1756

Benjamin Chew Esq

Cæ: Rodney

Book Notices.

LEGAL AND POLITICAL INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS AND THE RECURRENCE OF WAR. By Thomas Willing Balch. Philadelphia, 1917. 8vo, pp. 22.

This is a paper read before the American Philosophical Society by Mr. Balch in April, 1916. He treats his subject in every way worthy of its theme.

COLLECTIONS NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1916. Vol. IX. Newark. Price, \$2.00.

This new volume should prove of great interest to members of the Society and to all persons and societies interested in early New Jersey families. The late indefatigable Corresponding Secretary of the Society.